

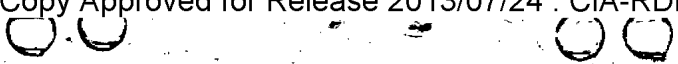
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**PRELIMINARY INVENTORY OF THE RECORDS
OF THE
FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION DIVISION,
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
(Record Group 263)**

Compiled by George A. O'Keefe

**The National Archives
National Archives and Records Service
General Services Administration**

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INTRODUCTION

Toward the end of 1940 as a result of the war in Europe certain government agencies foresaw the need for a listening service into foreign broadcasts. The State Department took action by bringing before the President resolutions requesting the monitoring of foreign broadcasts. The President in turn delegated authority to monitor foreign broadcasts to the Federal Communications Commission, which already had monitoring stations for domestic broadcasts and some personnel available for enlarging the monitoring service.

The Foreign Broadcast Monitoring Service under the direction of the Federal Communications Commission was formally established on February 19, 1941, and later that year was re-named the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service. Its main functions were to record, translate, analyze, and report on foreign broadcast programs to interested government agencies. It was not possible in the continental United States to record all the broadcasts emanating from foreign countries which the various agencies desired to have covered; consequently, in the fall of 1941 the Federal Communications Commission established a London Office of the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service to function as part of the staff of the American Embassy. From London the cables transmitted broadcasts emanating from Europe and Africa; wires from San Francisco, California and Portland, Oregon, transmitted material from the Far East and Russia; and wires at Kingsville, Texas transmitted material from Latin America.

On December 21, 1945, the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service was transferred to the War Department.

On January 22, 1946, under a presidential directive, the National Intelligence Authority was established for the purposes of planning, developing and coordinating intelligence activities related to the national security. Its membership comprised the Secretaries of State, War, Navy and one other person named by the President as his personal representative. Under the direction and control of the National Intelligence Authority was the Central Intelligence Group under the Director of Central Intelligence. On August 5, 1946, the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service was transferred to the Central Intelligence Group of the National Intelligence Authority, where it was renamed the Foreign Broadcast Information Service on November 1, 1946, and the Foreign Broadcast Information Branch on December 31, 1946. The Central Intelligence Agency was established under the National Security Act of 1947 (Public Law 253, 80th Cong., 1st Sess.) approved July 26, 1947. It is headed by a Director appointed by the President by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. When the Director took office the National Intelligence Authority and its central group ceased to exist and the personnel, property, and records were transferred to the Central Intelligence Agency. The Central Intelligence Agency is charged with coordinating the intelligence activities of the several government departments and agencies, its primary function consisting of correlating, evaluating, and disseminating within the government intelligence relating to National Security. It also advises and makes recommendations to the National Security Council in intelligence matters and performs, for the benefit of existing intelligence agencies, such additional services of common concern as the National Security Council decides can be more efficiently carried out by a central organization.

The records described in this preliminary inventory amount to 137 cubic feet, including 147 memobelts.

These records are in Record Group No. 263, Records of the Central Intelligence Agency, and were received from that organization. Records for the period from 1941-46 similar to those described in this preliminary inventory are in Record Group 262, Records of the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service.

**RECORDS OF THE FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION DIVISION,
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY**

GENERAL FILE. 1947. 121 ft.

Carbon copies of transcripts and reports of foreign radio broadcasts,
texts and summaries of significant foreign broadcasts and daily reports
from monitoring areas. Arranged alphabetically by name of country, city or
territory from which the broadcast emanated, thereunder chronologically.

A, B, AND C WIRES. 1947. 12 ft.

Teletype copies of the most significant foreign radio broadcasts
emanating from all monitored areas. Each broadcast contains a headline
based on the contents of the broadcast and an explanatory text. Arranged
chronologically in folders.

DAILY REPORTS. Jan.-Dec. 1947. 14 ft.

A series of daily reports based on broadcasts heard by F. B. I. S.
monitors prior to 8 a.m. of the date of issue. Organized in subseries,
as follows:

A) European, Far Eastern and Latin American Sections. 2 ft.

Processed copies of daily reports of key broadcasts emanating
from the above sections. Arranged alphabetically by section,
thereunder chronologically.

B) Significant Daily Radio Broadcasts. 4 ft.

Processed copies of daily reports of restricted radio broad-
casts emanating from European, Far Eastern and Latin American
sections. Arranged numerically 1-216.

C) "The Voice." 8 ft.

Processed copies of daily reports of key broadcasts emanating

from European, Far Eastern and Latin American Sections, Arranged in folders chronologically and numerically, 1-216.

DAILY SUMMARIES. Jan.-Dec. 1947. 4 in.

4

Mimeographed copies of daily summaries of significant foreign radio transmissions emanating from all monitored areas. Arranged chronologically.

SIGNIFICANT RADIO BROADCASTS. Dec. 1947. 1 in.

5

Copies of Significant Radio Broadcasts received in Washington containing a short summary of an outstanding news event from a monitored area followed by length Russian commentaries. Arranged chronologically.

SPECIAL REPORTS. July-Dec. 1947. 5 in.

6

Processed copies of Special Reports of European Radio Reactions regarding the following subjects:

1. Marshall Plan.
2. The Paris Conferences relating to Communist Tactics in France and Italy since the May Crisis.
3. The General Assembly Meetings.
4. The New Communist Information Bureau.
5. Adjournment of the Council of Foreign Ministers meeting.

Arranged Chronologically.

SPECIAL REPORTS, USSR PROPAGANDA SURVEYS. May-Dec. 1947. 10 in.

7

Processed copies of Surveys of the Soviet Union Radio Propaganda, including commentaries on Soviet broadcasts. Arranged chronologically.

MEMORANDA TO ALL EDITORS AND MONITORS. 1947. 5 in.

8

A processed list for the week of Oct. 7, 1947 of significant targets selected by the Intelligence Division of the War Department General Staff

for use as a guide for F. B. I. S. activities during the week following receipt. Arranged chronologically. The list is entitled, "permanent Editorial Targets."

SHORT WAVE BROADCASTING STATIONS OF THE WORLD ACCORDING TO FREQUENCY.

Oct. 1947 and Jan. 1948. 3 in.

2

A processed list including all short-wave broadcasting stations of the world (2000-30,000 kilocycles) which were in current operation or were likely to be activated in the future. Arranged chronologically, thereunder by kilocycle number.

STATION AND PROGRAM NOTES. Jan. 1947-Jan. 1948. 5 in.

10

A processed list of schedules and times of broadcasts from monitored areas including kilocycles, frequencies and networks. Arranged chronologically, thereunder alphabetically by station.

PROGRAM SCHEDULES, WORLD BROADCASTING STATIONS. 1947. 5 in.

11

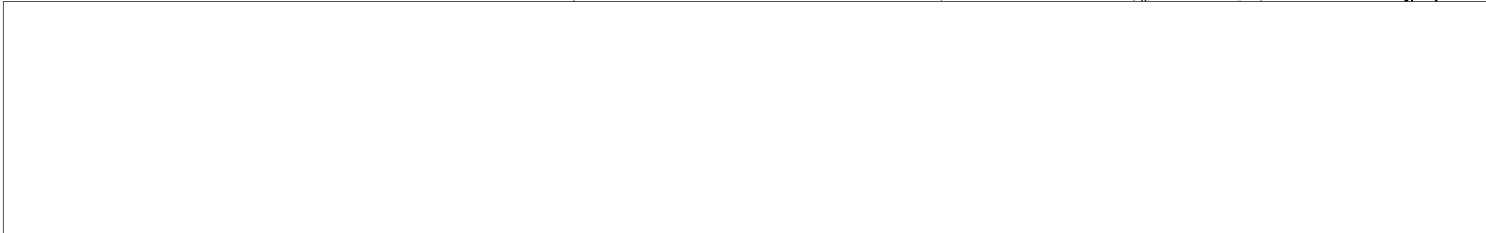
A processed compilation of Long, Medium, and Short Wave broadcasting station schedules. The schedules are divided into six sections, London, Europe and Near East, USSR, Africa, Asiatic and Pacific, and North and South America. Arranged in the above sections. Completely indexed.

STAT

"MORSE AND HELLSCHREIBER NEWS SCHEDULES." 1947. 1 in.

12

A processed compilation of Morse and Hellschreiber time schedules. The schedules cover code broadcasting stations in Europe, Africa, Asia, and South America. The compilation is incomplete. Arranged chronologically.



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